## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DIWY-01 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 ARA-06 SIL-01 LAB-04 EUR-12 /065 W

-----071937Z 056953 /41

R 071448Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2989 INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 1355

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINS, ET

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED

1. ALTHOUGH INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY USUALLY CELEBRATED MAR 8, ETHIOPIAN GOVT TOOK ADVANTAGE SUNDAY MAR 6
TO CELEBRATE DAY LOCALLY. PROGRAM IN ADDIS ABABA INCLUDED GROUP OF PARTICIPANTS FROM NATIONAL WORK CAMPAIGN OF DEVELOP-MENT THROUGH COOPERATION (ZEMETCHA), REPS OF WORKERS, PEASANTS, NURSES, HOSPITAL WORKERS, ARTISTS, WOMEN-IN-UNIFORM, AND MOTHER PATRIOTS. SPEECHES GIVEN BY PROVISIONAL OFFICE FOR MASS ORGAN-IZATIONAL AFFAIRS (POMOA) AND REPS FROM WORKERS, PEASANTS, URBAN DWELLERS' ASSOCIATIONS COORDINATING COMMITTEE, CUBAN WOMAN, AS WELL AS FROM OTHER UNIDENTIFIED SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND FROM ETHIOPIAN GOVT. SHORT DRAMA RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ANNIVERSARY WAS STAGED AND MEMBERS OF VISITING SOVIET CULTURAL TROUPE GAVE MUSICAL PERFORMANCE. CELEBRATION ENDED AROUND 1300.

2. PROGRAM WELL ATTENDED AND ORDERLY. EMBASSY OFFICER PRESENT DID NOT OBSERVE ANY "YANKEE GO HOME" OR ANTI-CIA POSTERS. CELEBRATION WAS NOT COVERED LIVE BY ETHIOPIAN MEDIA, AS HAS BEEN CASE FOR PAST MONTH'S DEMONSTRATIONS. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRINCIPAL SPEAKER, 1ST VICE CHAIRMAN, DID MAKE ONE REFERENCE TO CIA. WILL CHECK PRESS MAR 8.

3. COMMENT: LOW-KEY CELEBRATION OF FETE PROBABLY COMBINATION OF FACTORS, INCLUDING PLETHORA OF DEMONSTRATIONS RECENTLY AND THEME OF RALLY. LACK OF ANTI-CIA OR ANTI-US PLACARDS WAS NOTABLE, BUT MAY NOT PROVE MUCH.

	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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